
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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City of Beloit Returning Well #9 to Service

Rehabilitation project completed, water quality in compliance with federal requirements

July 28, 2021 - The City of Beloit has completed a radium mitigation project on a city-owned well that was taken out of service in October 2019. The well will return to service on Monday, August 2, 2021.

Samples collected from this well - Well #9 - between November 2018 and September 2019 indicated the presence of radium beyond the maximum contaminant level. The City chose to stop operation of the well out of an abundance of caution while a solution could be developed.

The City of Beloit has eight wells in total and has not experienced any challenges to providing safe drinking water while this well was offline. The city's drinking water is pumped from the wells in service and blended together before being distributed to users. There was not an immediate health risk and the well was taken offline as soon as the city was informed about the radium tests in 2019.

The rehabilitation work included removing the buildup of scaling on the walls of the well that was concentrating the naturally occurring radium. Six radium tests were conducted and all of the results came back much lower than the MCL of 5 pCi/L. The test results were 3.68, 1.78, 2.52, 2.45, 2.26 and 2.22 pCi/L. These samples were collected over the course of a 24-hour pump test.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources gave the City permission to return Well #9 to service on July 1, 2021. The City will return Well #9 to service on August 2, 2021.

All water entering the distribution system meets all State and Federal Safe Drinking Water Standards. Radium levels will be monitored on at least a quarterly basis to ensure compliance with Safe Drinking Water Standards.

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